



# ***NEWS RELEASE***

## **2005 JOINT TASK FORCE-ARMED FORCES INAUGURAL COMMITTEE**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **ARMED FORCES COMMITTEE PROVIDES BEHIND-THE-SCENES SYMPOSIUM**

WASHINGTON – The Joint Task Force - Armed Forces Inaugural Committee (JTF-AFIC) invites the media to join them in a behind-the-scenes demonstration of how military ceremonial support for the 2005 Presidential Inauguration will unfold on Inauguration Day.

A press briefing with the JTF-AFIC senior leadership will precede the symposium, allowing the media a one-time opportunity to interview Air Force Brigadier General Duane Lodrige, the JTF-AFIC Deputy Commander, on pertinent military ceremonial activities supporting the inauguration.

The event will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Dec. 16 at the DC Armory, located at 2400 East Capitol Street SE in Washington, D.C. All media are invited and photo opportunities will be available.

JTF-AFIC has spent months planning the ceremonial aspects of the inauguration, using minute-by-minute timelines and intricate details for everything from ensuring that parade participants are lined up properly to serving meals and keeping everyone warm. More than 5,000 service members will participate, from marching bands and ceremonial units to honor cordons and military assistants. This symposium provides an up-close look at the many moving parts required to ensure a smooth inaugural event.

JTF-AFIC members will track the day's movements using a life-size map of the parade route and inaugural activities, providing ample visual opportunities. The JTF-AFIC team will practice moment-by-moment scenarios on an oversize to scale map of the D.C. area.

The Department of Defense established the Armed Forces Inaugural Committee in the 1950s, as a temporary force comprised of Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airmen, and Coast Guardsmen to render military honors to

the President during inaugural events. President Dwight Eisenhower was the first to have Armed Forces Inaugural Committee support for his Inauguration in 1953.

JTF-AFIC was formed several months before the presidential election to provide military ceremonial support to the Inauguration and related activities during the 10-day inaugural period. The Commander, JTF-AFIC, is U.S. Army Major General Galen Jackman and the Deputy Commander is U.S. Air Force Brigadier General Duane Lodrige. JTF-AFIC also serves as the Department of Defense liaison to support the Presidential Inaugural Committee (PIC) and the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies (JCCIC).

For further information, contact JTF-AFIC Public Affairs at (202) 358-5351. Information is also available on the Internet at <http://www.afic.army.mil>.